

SAWIN HOUSE STUDY COMMITTEE

APRIL 7, 2015, 7:00 PM– 8:45 PM

Community Room, Morse Institute

MINUTES

APPROVED

Present: Elissa Landre, Michael Linehan, Chris Milford, John Moran, Janice Parsons, Stephen Roche, George Sawin, Ken Soderholm, Wayne Szretter, Amy Ward, James Williamson.

Absent: Stephen Evers, Randy Johnson.

Meeting called to order by Chair Ken Soderholm at 7:02 PM.

Minutes from meeting of March 24 were reviewed and approved with deletions from paragraph one. Moved by Mr. Moran, Second by Mr. Milford: unanimous approval.

Review of draft interim report composed by Mr. Soderholm. Mr. Sawin requested addition of references to “cultural” aspects of the sites and house. Ms. Landre submitted several wording changes and asked about January 27 as a meeting date. (that meeting had been canceled.) Discussion followed with Ms. Landre’s and Mr. Sawin’s suggestions adopted. Suggestions sent in an email by Mr. Johnson were not acted upon, but the reference to Shaw Park was noted as being part of the material submitted by the Natick Historical Commission in October, 2014.

After a discussion of the preferred scope of the report, the report, as amended, was moved for approval by Mr. Sawin, second by Mr. Linehan. Passed by unanimous vote in favor.

Discussion turned to “Sawin Homestead Options with Pros and Cons”, a document with seven sets of bullet points, as presented by Mr. Sawin. Discussion included concern about lack of knowledge right now of costs associated with each element under consideration, and the scope of the representation of this committee. Are we representing taxpayers?

Can we come up with a set of “Findings” and from those Findings, make recommendations. That idea seemed appealing. It was mentioned that the town is not in position to do the most work. It would fall to a nonprofit, either the Historical Society or another entity. In the long run, a CPA grant would be a good goal.

It was suggested that committee members add to the “pros and cons” under discussion and submit comments to the Chair before the next Committee meeting which will be scheduled after the end of Town Meeting (expected to go on into May.)

Mr. Soderholm stated his intent to send a revised interim report to Committee members and to the Town Moderator on April 8, 2015.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 PM, by Mr. Moran, Second Ms Landre. Passed by unanimous vote.

Next meeting: Date and Place TBA.

